VZCZCXRO9683 OO RUEHCT DE RUEHKT #0403 1020918 ZNR UUUUU ZZH O 110918Z APR 08 FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8304 INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 6418 RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 6735 RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY 2024 RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 4771 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 5984 RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 2348 RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA PRIORITY 4119 RHMFIUU/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 3151

UNCLAS KATHMANDU 000403

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STATE FOR ISN/WMDT (BLEWIS), T(TKATSAPIS) AND SCA/INS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MCAP PARM PINR PINS PREL PTER FR NP

SUBJECT: NEPAL NOT SENDING DELEGATE TO GLOBAL INITIATIVE EPG

**REF:** A. STATE 34519

**1**B. STATE 27349

¶C. KATHMANDU 317

¶D. KATHMANDU 141

- 11. The Government of Nepal (GON) is unlikely to send any delegates to the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism Exercise Planning Group (EPG) to be held in Paris, France on April 15. The Deputy Chief of Mission extended invitation as requested in Ref B to Foreign Secretary Acharya on April 3. On April 8, Emboff followed up with the duty officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) as per Ref 1A. (Note: GON offices, including the MFA, are closed April 7-14 in observance of the Constituent Assembly election on April 10 and subsequent local holidays. End note.) The duty officer said he would contact the Foreign Secretary and inform post if the GON decided to participate in the EPG.
- 12. The GON has been unable to participate in any Global Initiative-related exercise to date because of a limited budget and lack of officials with relevant technical expertise (Ref D). The GON has yet to form an interagency group to handle Global Initiative issues (Ref C). Post does not anticipate movement on any major programs, including the Global Initiative, until well after the new Constituent Assembly sits, probably in May. POWELL